Executive Director Report for May 2025

Legislative/Policy Work

- Organic Dairy Assistance, Investment, and Reporting Yields Act of 2023 (O DAIRY Act of 2023) – Senate Bill 3097
- 2. "The Organic Dairy Data Collection Act" House Bill 6937
- 3. USDA/ Farm Bill updates
 - i. No progress on the new Farm Bill yet.
 - ii. Republicans are trying to get a Reconciliation Bill which could have funding for orphan programs.
 - iii. More unknowns than answers right now.
- 4. Organic Market Development Grant and Transition to Organic Partnership Program approved and funds released now.
- 1. NOSB Spring Meeting 2025
 - a. WODPA submitted written comments (attached) as well as provided oral comments during the NOSB meeting.
 - i. Focused on sunset materials (oxytocin & flunixin) as well as risk- based certification

2. FMMO Update

- a. Members of the Coalition for Organic Dairy Exemption late last week filed 15A petitions with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) seeking to exempt organic dairy from the Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO) Program.
- b. Coalition Members include Organic Valley, Horizon and Aurora.

Letter Sign Ons:

Mercaris/ Argus update:

- 1. Q1 2025 Report is now available (attached)
- 2. Mercaris/Argus collecting statements for Q2 2025 (April, May, June)
 - a. Send statements to AgData@ArgusMedia.com

- b. All organic dairy producers can submit statements. Only paying WODPA members can see the survey results.
- c. SEND IN YOUR STATEMENTS NOW PLEASE

Financial Opportunities:

- 1. Organic Dairy Exemption Request Form
 - a. AMS-15 Organic Exemption Request Form | Agricultural Marketing Service (usda.gov)

Reminders/ Resources:

- 1. Save the Dates:
 - a. WODPA Conference & Trade Show
 - i. October 28-29, 2025 in Santa Rosa, California
 - b. Virtual WODPA State Meetings:
 - i. Washington: June 5th
 - ii. Oregon: June 12th
 - iii. Idaho: June 19th
 - iv. California: July 17th
 - v. Texas: July 24th
 - c. Sonoma County Regional WODPA Meeting
 - i. July 8th at the Washoe House
 - d. NOC's Organic Summit (virtual)
 - i. May 20th 10am 2pm PST
 - ii. To register: <u>Upcoming events National Organic Coalition</u>
 - e. OFA's PUBLIC Dairy Council Call
 - i. May 21st @ 8am PST
 - ii. OFA Quarterly Organic Dairy Call